

Glossary

Best management practices (BMPs) – Methods, measures, or practices selected by an agency to meet its nonpoint source control needs. BMPs include, but are not limited to, structural and nonstructural controls and operation and maintenance procedures. BMPs can be applied before, during, and after pollution producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutants into receiving waters (40 CFR 130.2(m)).

Class 1 airsheds – Also called Class 1 Federal areas. A classification where areas require the highest level of protection under the Clean Air Act (CAA). The CAA defines mandatory Class I Federal areas as certain national parks (over 6,000 acres), wilderness areas (over 5,000 acres), national memorial parks (over 5,000 acres), and international parks that were in existence as of August 1977.

Connectivity – The arrangement of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape; the opposite of fragmentation. Patches of similar habitats are either close together or linked by corridors of appropriate vegetation.

Deferred maintenance – Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and which, therefore, was put off or delayed for a future period. When allowed to accumulate without limits or consideration of useful life, deferred maintenance leads to deterioration of performance, increased costs to repair, and decrease in asset value. Deferred maintenance needs may be categorized as critical or noncritical at any point in time. Continued deferral of noncritical maintenance will normally result in an increase in critical deferred maintenance.

Ecosystem services – Benefits that people obtain from ecosystems. Some of the ecosystem services the Prescott NF provides include: clean water and air, productive soil, riparian and aquatic resources, diverse wildlife habitats, timber, forage, scenery, recreation, and educational and cultural values.

Extirpate – to expunge or to remove completely.

Federally listed species – Threatened or endangered species listed under the Endangered Species Act, as amended. Candidate and proposed species are species which are being considered for Federal listing.

Fire regime – The patterns, frequency, and severity of fire that occur over a long period of time across a landscape and its immediate effects on the ecosystem in which it occurs. There are five fire regimes which are classified based on frequency (average number of years between fires) and severity (amount of replacement of the dominant overstory vegetation) of the fire. These five regimes are:

- **Fire regime I** – 0 to 35 year frequency and low (surface fires most common, isolated torching can occur) to mixed severity (less than 75 percent of dominant overstory vegetation replaced)
- **Fire regime II** – 0 to 35 year frequency and high severity (greater than 75 percent of dominant overstory vegetation replaced)
- **Fire regime III** – 35 to 100+ year frequency and mixed severity
- **Fire regime IV** – 35 to 100+ year frequency and high severity
- **Fire regime V** – 200+ year frequency and high severity.

Goshawk post-fledgling family areas (PFAs) – The areas that surround northern goshawk nest areas. They represent an area of concentrated use by the northern goshawk family until the time the young are no longer dependent on adults for food. PFAs are approximately 420 acres in size (not including the nest area acres).

Human geographic mapping – Human geographic mapping defines map boundaries by natural elements and human interactions. It is based upon the notion that political boundaries do not naturally coincide with social, ecological, or other boundaries, and instead, it outlines the boundaries of these areas that naturally define human interactions in a region. Human geographic maps can be far more intuitive, natural, and descriptive of a community and its inhabitants than a political map.

Intermittent (or seasonal) stream – a stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from surface sources such as melting snow in mountainous areas.

Invasive species – Species that are not native to the ecosystem being described and that cause, or have the potential to cause, ecological or economic harm.

Maintenance level – Maintenance levels define the level of service and maintenance requirements for a road. Maintenance levels 1 to 5 are described below:

- **Level 1** – These roads have been placed in storage between intermittent uses. They are not shown on motor vehicle use maps and are closed to vehicular traffic but may be available for nonmotorized uses.
- **Level 2** – These roads are for use by high-clearance vehicles; passenger car use is discouraged or prohibited.
- **Level 3** – These roads are open and maintained for passenger car use. Roads in this maintenance level are typically low speed with single lanes and turnouts.
- **Level 4** – These roads provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Roads in this maintenance level are typically double lane and aggregate surfaced.
- **Level 5** – These roads provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Roads in this maintenance level are typically double lane and paved.

Mineral material – Common variety minerals such as rock or gravel.

National Forest System (NFS) – As defined in the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-378), the “National Forest System” includes all national forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States, all national forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means; the national grasslands and land use projects administered under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act; and other lands, waters, or interests therein administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as part of the system.

Old growth – “Old growth” refers to specific habitat components that occur in forests and woodlands—old trees, dead trees (snags), downed wood (coarse woody debris), and structure diversity. These important habitat features may occur in small areas, with only a few components, or over larger areas as stands or forests where old growth is concentrated. Old growth is not equated to any particular successional stage, though late seral states are more likely to contain old

growth features. In the Southwest, old growth is considered “transitional,” given that the location of old growth shifts on the landscape over time as a result of succession and disturbance (tree growth and mortality) (Forest Service, 2012). Some species, notably certain plants, require “old forest” communities that may or may not have old growth components but have escaped significant disturbance for lengths of time necessary to provide the suitable stability and environment. In Southwestern forested ecosystems, old growth is different than the traditional definition based on Northwestern infrequent fire forests. Due to large differences among Southwestern vegetation types and natural disturbances, old growth forests vary extensively in tree size, age classes, presence, and abundance of structural elements, stability, and presence of understory.

Perennial stream – a stream that flows continuously.

Perennial intermittent stream – a stream with alternating segments of perennial flow and dry stretches.

Potential natural vegetation type (PNVT) – Coarse-scale groupings of land that share similar aspect, elevation, vegetation, soil parent material, and natural disturbances such as fire or drought cycles. Identification of PNVTs is based on data from the terrestrial ecosystem survey (TES).

Recommended wilderness – A potential wilderness area within the National Forest System which has been recommended for official designation by the regional forester to the Chief of the Forest Service. The Chief may elect to forward the recommendation with wording for a congressional bill to the Secretary of Agriculture, who may then elect to transmit the proposed bill to Congress. It takes an act of Congress to designate a wilderness area.

Southwestern Region sensitive species – Those plant and animal species identified by the Southwestern Region’s regional forester for which population viability is a concern as evidenced by: (a) significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density or (b) significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce the existing distribution of a species (FSM 2670.5 Definitions).

Traditional cultural property – Defined in the National Register Bulletin as a location, building, structure, community, and individual objects that are considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register as a historic property because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that are: (1) rooted in that community’s history and (2) important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community.

Wildland fire – Wildland fire is any non-structural fire that occurs in vegetation or natural fuels. It includes both wildfires and prescribed fires. **Wildfires** are fires with unplanned ignitions including lightning or unauthorized and accidental human-caused actions. **Prescribed fires** are intentionally ignited by the Forest Service under an approved plan to meet specific objectives.

Wildland-urban interface (WUI) – Wildland-urban interface includes those areas of resident populations at imminent risk from wildfire and human developments having special significance. These areas may include: critical communications sites, municipal watersheds, high voltage transmission lines, church camps, scout camps, research facilities, and other structures that, if destroyed by fire, would result in hardship to communities. These areas encompass not only the sites themselves, but also the continuous slopes and fuels that lead directly to the sites, regardless of the distance involved.

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